



General Assembly: Farmer Crisis in South Asia

Hello delegates! My name is Meaghan Holt-Hillis and I will be your head chair for the MVHS MUN 2018 conference. I am in my fourth year of MUN. I am currently a senior and I am involved in the agricultural program at school. Other than taking care of the animals at the farm on campus, I also have a job at Golden Spoon and I love it. I look forward to meeting you all in committee and listening to what you come up with. If you have any questions please contact us at: mvhsmunsch@gmail.com

I. Historical Background:

Today, South Asia is facing an extreme food price crisis. This is due in part to the relatively low level of agricultural growth which is currently less than three percent, coupled with the exponentially increasing population. South Asia has maneuvered through the financial crisis well enough. Although, the region suffered trade deterioration. With global food and fuel prices rising again, South Asia will be affected because they will not be able to afford it. About 75% of South Asia's poor live in rural areas and agriculture sector employs about 60% of the labor force. The region has made enormous strides during and after green revolution in improving agricultural productivity. The revolution allowed the region to lift millions of people out of poverty. Agricultural growth during this period reduced poverty by raising farm incomes, increasing the demand for rural labor, and reducing food prices. The continuing increase in world food prices and the fact that the region is net importer of food has brought agriculture into focus in many South Asian countries.

II. United Nations Involvement:

The UN had extensive involvement in the Farmer Crisis. While many governments are struggling with the immediate effects of the crisis, it is accepted that an important factor in long term solutions is revitalizing agricultural and rural sectors. By doing this, the structural issues that have contributed to the food crisis will be addressed. A transition to long-term investments in support of sustained agricultural growth is urgently needed. According the the Indian Prime



Minister, in order to help alleviate this pressing issue, a second Green Revolution is needed. The UN hopes to increase the productivity growth in agriculture, which will require a huge increase in investments. By getting more investments, than the food prices will go down, making it easier to obtain food.

Another way would to be gender equality in the work force. By allowing more women to join, production levels will increase. It will also allow two providers in a household who are both making money to be able to buy more resources at the higher prices. Also, many women depend on agricultural based livelihoods. They depend upon this industry for survival.

III. Possible Solution:

Delegates, in this committee, you will be required to address the problem that farmers are facing with the increase in population and the rising food prices. Give solutions such as finding a way to increase means of agricultural production and rationing out food to all citizens in order to create a balance of food distribution. Other possible solutions could deal with what other countries could do to help with nations in need. As this part is a major part of forming resolutions, this will need to be the longest section. Make sure to be as creative with the solutions as possible while staying within the topic. Describe an approach that could be used to decrease the food prices so that many people will have access to what they need.

For example, ESCAP (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) addresses food transfers and tapping into the national reserve and introducing the products to the national food markets. Countries can work together to determine how much they can afford to give up to help support others who are facing a depletion of resources. This will reduce the risk of thousands going without food because they can't afford it. Furthermore this might propose a way to fix the rapid decrease in resources that South Asian countries are facing. With the help of outside countries and taking from the national reserve will help to lessen the immediate needs of the country but there will need to be long term solutions.

IV. Guiding Questions:

1. What should some solutions be regarding how to solve the rising food prices?



2. Is there a way to protect investors from the possible crash of the industry?
3. How can the UN and other nations help those who have been affected by the increase in prices?

VI. Works cited:

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General Assembly: Protection of International Journalists

Hello delegates!! My name is Savannah Martinez and I will be your vice chair for this committee for the 2018 MUN conference. I am currently a sophomore at Mission Viejo high School. This will be my second year of MUN as well as my second time vice chairing. During school I do swim also I like to hang out with friends. I can't wait to meet all of you and to hear all your great ideas throughout this committee. If you have any questions please email me at: mvhsmunsch@gmail.com

I. Historical Background

Journalists are considered to have one of the riskiest jobs. As a result, they are often under protection. The killing of a journalist has been recorded back to the 1900s. In Tajikistan just within the years of 1992 and 1996 there were at least 43 journalists that were killed or were a target. Countries that are located in Africa and the Middle East have the most people journalists killed in the 1900s. Journalists in these countries were killed more often due to the amount of wars that was within their countries during the 1900s.

Over 1,200 journalists have been killed since 1982 and the number continues to increase yearly. Countries such as Iraq, Syria, and the Philippines, experience exponentially larger amounts of journalist deaths per year than other countries due to the current, unstable nature of their governments. Recently laws, in certain countries have been created to prevent the killing and wrongful imprisonment of journalists internationally. The Shield laws protect journalists from revealing the names of confidential sources, as well as cover any related production of a story. Although there are laws, there is also the right of freedom of speech, Within countries where journalists are silenced, the countries is portraying that the people are silenced.

II. UN involvement

The United Nations has put forth a lot of money and meetings to address the rights of journalism and the protection of journalists. The UN has held meetings to discuss the protection of



international journalists. The first UN-Inter-Agency Meeting of the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity took place in September 2011 at UNESCO's headquarters in Paris. This meeting was open to all participants, collectively this is where The UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists was first drafted. A second UN Inter-Agency meeting took place in Vienna on November 2012. Finally the second UN-Inter-Agency Meeting was made to finalize the draft they made in 2011. The UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists was put in action in 2012. The goal of the UN Plan of Action is to bring awareness to the protection of journalists. As well as to uphold the fundamental right of freedom of expression. In 2014, the UN held a third meeting. This meeting was brought about to encourage partnering with other organizations and institutions, raising awareness to all, and cooperating with member states.

The Committee to Protect Journalists as know as CPJ, is a non- profit organizations. The Committee to Protect Journalists was founded in 1981 by a group of U.S. correspondents CPJ promotes press freedom and defends the rights of journalists. CPJ is made up of about 40 experts based around the world, although their headquarters is in New York City. CPJ s not just for Journalist but for whomever believes in the right of speech.

II. Possible Solution:

For the topic, Protection of international journalists there are many solutions. Possible solutions could include proposing to start a NGO that works with journalists that are going to countries with war conflicts. The NGOs proposed above will better inform the journalist into what time or war zone they are going into as well as have training programs that will help them be able to protect themselves. This NGO will there to allow access to those who wish to help teach journalists how to protect themselves, and will be in most countries. The main target will include the journalists that are going to countries that are in war zones.

NGOs such as CJP, Committee to Protect Journalists, are a great NGOs that provide helpful ways to help spread the importances of freedom of speech, whether it's about journalism or about anyone that has freedom of speech. Not only will starting a NGO help the situation, but if countries started to punish the people who threaten or killed journalists, then the created NGO can help bring awareness to the public of these atrocities. While describing how your solutions would



help, don't forget to explain how it help journalist from being killed or kidnapped as well as how you can benefit not only your countries but all.

IV. Guiding questions:

1. What is your country's position on this topic?
2. What are some possible solution that help stop the killing and imprisonment of journalists?
3. Although for some countries there all laws that protect journalist, do they as well protection their sources.

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